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"NO PEACE WITH PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE TELLS PARLIAMENT"

SUBMARINE CRASH LAID TO CAPTAIN

U. S. Inspectors Report That Skipper of Lost Tug Was Responsible for Marine Disaster.

Misjudged Speed of Deutschland and Gave Wrong Signal to Engineer, Inspectors Say.

New London, Dec. 19.—United States Steamboat Inspectors Withy and Rankin, of this city, today made public their finding relative to the responsibility for the collision between the German merchant submarine Deutschland and the tug T. A. Scott, Jr., in the Race on the morning of November 17, which resulted in the sinking of the latter and the drowning of her entire crew. Captain Frederick Hinsch, a passenger, was saved by the merest chance.

The inspectors place the blame for the catastrophe upon a mistake made in a bell signal given by Captain John H. Gurney, of the tug, to the engineer of that vessel at a time when the two vessels involved were so close together that this mistake proved to be a fatal error.

In their finding the inspectors continue:

"It seems to us probable that Captain Gurney underestimated the speed which the Deutschland was making after passing New London Light, at which point her speed had been increased to eight or nine knots an hour; and that Captain Gurney did not realize how quickly the Deutschland was closing up the distance between her and the T. A. Scott, Jr., until he was advised by Captain Hinsch to give the Deutschland more room and to increase the speed of the T. A. Scott, Jr."

"If Captain Gurney then looked out of the porthole window of the T. A. Scott, Jr., it must have been evident to him that absolutely no time must be lost in increasing the speed of the T. A. Scott, Jr., in order to clear the Deutschland and possibly in his over-anxiety to avoid a collision he gave the wrong signal to the engineer and had no time to correct the same before the collision took place."

The inspectors further say: "We are satisfied that the Deutschland was being navigated in a careful and competent manner by Captain Paul Koenig, prior to the collision; that he did all in his power to avert the collision and that he made all due efforts to effect the rescue of the tug T. A. Scott, Jr., all of whom were evidently trapped at their posts of duty so quickly did the tug sink. Captain Hinsch, in our opinion, owes his escape to the fact that he was out on deck when the collision occurred."

LIVELY BATTLE ON PROHIBITION ENGROSSES HUB

Both Sides Make Unusual Campaign in Boston Liquor Fight.

Boston, Dec. 19.—The liveliest fight on the liquor question that Boston has experienced in its 41 years of license was on today. The no-license advocates who had lost so consistently in the past had been aroused to fresh efforts by evangelistic campaigns and the concerted action of temperance societies representing various religious beliefs.

The license party, admittedly anxious over the outcome, left nothing that was proper undone in their efforts to bring out the vote favorable to the regulated sale of intoxicants. At the opening, the vote was about normal but before noon at most all of polling places voters were in line in greater number than at the corresponding hour in other years.

There were 118,116 men registered and 10,946 women. The women voted only for the school committee.

THE WEATHER

Connecticut: Cloudy tonight, Wednesday partly cloudy; little change in temperature; moderate to fresh north-west winds, becoming variable.

CLACKING BONES FACE FAIR WHEN HEARING BEGINS

Skeleton of Woman Supposed to Be Wife Hangs in Superior Courtroom.

EXPERT TESTIFIES WHAT HE OBSERVED

Victim Dead 18 Months, He Says, But Not as Long as Three Years.

With the supposed skeleton of Margaret Fair hanging before them on a metal upright, the jury in the criminal superior court today listened to testimony in the trial of William F. Fair and Jack Devereaux of Darien, who are charged with having killed Mrs. Fair. The last preliminary witnesses were heard early this morning and the trial got under full headway.

Dr. Schultz, a coroner's physician of New York city, was the principal witness called by the state. He is a professor in Cornell Medical school and has many degrees. The witness said he saw the body on Aug. 10, 1914, the day after he was found in the Darien woods. He declared the remains were badly decomposed. All that was left, with the exception of bones, was a pasty substance covered by skin in the region where the organs in the abdomen are located.

He was able to tell that the skeleton was that of a woman about five feet six inches tall and having dark hair. There was a scar which indicated she had undergone an operation. His judgment would be that the woman had been dead about 18 months. Attorney Jacob B. Klein, of counsel for Fair, tried to get Dr. Schultz to admit it might have been as long as three years but the witness could not think so.

Constable William B. Bates of Darien was called to tell how he learned of the discovery of the body. He said some boys told him Aug. 9, 1914, that a body had been found in the woods. He went to the spot and took charge of the remains.

Rudolph W. Gillette testified he was the undertaker to whom the body was turned over after it was dug up. The trial was resumed at 2 this afternoon after the usual noon recess.

PLANS FOR CITY XMAS PROGRAM ARE ELABORATE

Small Trees to Be Distributed in Hospitals and Institutions.

A new departure in the city's program of making the children in hospitals, homes and orphan asylums happy during the Christmas season will be instituted with the opening of the municipal Christmas tree celebration at Broad street hill Sunday night. Good cheer in the form of fruit, candy and toys will be distributed about smaller trees in the Protestant Orphan asylum, Hillside home, St. Vincent's hospital, Bridgeport hospital and to the children who will assemble in the High school auditorium.

The program to be announced for the municipal Christmas tree this week will be substantially as follows: A procession of 250 school children now being trained as a festival chorus for the occasion by Miss Cora M. Purcell, supervisor of music, will assemble about city hall at 6 o'clock. Headed by the mayor, members of various city departments and the Coast Artillery band they will march to the foot of Broad street, where the big tree will be illuminated. An address will be given by the mayor and a musical program played.

The procession will then march to the High school where the gifts will be presented. The city officials will then visit the various asylums where they will make like donations to the suffering and poor alike who are unable to leave their asylums. The tree, which has been set up by the park department and electrically equipped by the United Illuminating Co., will remain lighted at night during the week, but no further exercises are planned.

Holds Up Barber Shop With Razor

Charged with entering the barber shop of Philip Canubba, 156 William street, and stealing money from the cash register, while he brandished a razor which drove everybody to cover, Angelo Columbo, an East Side resident, was given two months in jail by Judge Frederic Bartlett this morning. The defendant claimed he was intoxicated and did not realize what he was doing.

ILL-FATED OF THREE FACES FROM PRIVATIONS

Proto died at St. Vincent's hospital this afternoon, efforts of physicians at the institution to save him failed.

Starting in the midst of plenty, dying on the eve of the Yuletide season, when the spirit of Christian charity is supposed to spread its protecting wings over the victims of adversity, and impart to the homes of the poor a semblance of Christmas plenty, a mother of 17 years, her babe of three months and her husband, Philip Moroto, lie on the brink of death at St. Vincent's hospital.

The mother cannot live 24 hours, and at noon today was gasping for breath, struggling hard to live on. The husband, a consumptive, has contracted pneumonia and little hope is held for his recovery. The babe of three months whom the physicians describe as "nothing but a frail frame," will probably live but a few days—a victim of malnutrition.

The little family was removed to-day from a place they called "home," a squalid single room, in the basement of the house at 226 North Washington avenue. The authorities had been appealed to aid the mother, who when Dr. James A. Canavan arrived, was rolling on the floor in the throes of convulsions, struggling for air.

About a year and a half ago Moroto married a pretty Italian girl, whose rosy complexion testified to her good health. For about a year they lived happily and the knowledge that a baby was coming to gladden their home, added joy to their lives.

But the dictates of destiny decreed that their happiness should be short lived. Moroto contracted consumption. For a while he struggled along working at his place in the factory, until the violent cough had so racked

his system that he no longer had the strength to work.

They were reduced to living in one room, surrounded by squalor, the victims of abject poverty. A little stove which failed to radiate sufficient heat to keep them warm stands in a corner of the room, and the young husband, barefooted, walked about the cold floor, when a coughing spell forced him to rise from a sitting or lying position. He was stricken with pneumonia.

The baby came, but it failed to obtain nourishment from the mother who lived on the crumbs of neighbors as poor as themselves, with the result that it has been literally starved to death. Residents told people about the pitiable plight of the little family, but the red tape of authoritative procedure, indifference in official circles, failed to accelerate action which should have alleviated their condition.

The saloons in the district were prosperous. Occasionally they gave a small mite to assist. This morning however a saloon keeper entered the home. Its frigid atmosphere chilled him to the bone, and the sight of the agonized mother, whose sufferings a few drops of whisky might have alleviated, made him feel that he was doing wrong. He hurried her to St. Vincent's hospital in the ambulance, returning to bring the father and baby to the same institution.

Christmas is coming but its joys will bring no warmth to the Moroto family. The advent of the Yuletide season means but the coming of death, to at least one, the mother, and perhaps all three will have met fate to face "The Prince of Peace" by Christmas Day.

TRAINMEN, ARRAIGNED IN COURT FOR MANSLAUGHTER FOLLOWING FATAL WRECK, PLEAD NOT GUILTY

Waterbury, Dec. 19.—Lewis E. Johnson and William Herchenroder, both of New York city, conductor and brakeman respectively, on the freight train that figured in the wreck of the Winsted Express at Beacon Falls on Dec. 1, were brought before Judge Case in the superior court here today on bench warrants charging them with manslaughter. They both offered pleas of "not guilty."

Judge Case held them for the next term of the criminal side of the superior court, under bonds of \$1,000 each. They had been held by the coroner under bonds of \$2,500. Deputy Coroner Monzani held both men criminally negligent in his finding on the wreck, in which Engineer Eugene Lake and Fireman Charles Slack, of the Winsted Express were instantly killed.

CONTRACT BOARD SHOULD BUY ALL PAVING FOR CITY

Dr. R. J. Lynch, Retiring, Gives Argument Against Present Method.

Dr. R. J. Lynch, who will bow out next month as a member of the board of contract and supply, sang his swan song at a meeting of the board this noon. The board transacted only routine business, but Dr. Lynch's remarks brought some interest to the proceedings.

The doctor said he hoped the good work done by the board would be continued and extended. He hoped that the board of education would soon do its buying through the board of contract and supply. In closing Dr. Lynch said he thought the board ought to do the city's warrentie buying.

William E. Seeley, treasurer of the Republican party, and the only other board member present, said he thought the doctor's suggestion a good one—but he smiled a slight smile as he said it.

"Maybe we could save the city some money on Warrentie, at that," said Mr. Seeley.

Friend's Sacrifice Fails to Save Trio In Burglary Arrest

August Jensen, John Griffin and Joseph Hunt, despite the efforts of John Cummings, of 487 Barnum avenue to exonerate them from all blame for burglarizing the liquor store conducted by Smith & Lamb, at East Main and Maple streets, by taking all responsibility for the robbery himself, in court this morning, was held in bonds of \$500 until December 27.

HOME ON FIRE, CHILDREN FLEE THROUGH SNOW

Run Eighth of a Mile in Night-Clothes to House of Friend

Milford, Dec. 19.—The six children of John Armstrong, ranging in age from four to 14 years, were forced out into the bitter cold of early morning today, barefooted and scantily clad, when fire broke out in their home, while all were asleep. The occupants, awakened suddenly, had no time to save any of their belongings and the children, clad only in their night gowns, had to run about an eighth of a mile before they could reach the shelter of the nearest neighbor's house. The temperature was between eight and ten degrees above zero.

The house, with its contents, was burned to the ground, the loss being between \$3,000 and \$4,000. Armstrong with his children moved into the place about six months ago. His wife is not living.

The children were alone in the house at the time and had to get out by windows. The fire is believed to have started from the kitchen range. The father, who works during the night in Bridgeport, returned this morning to find his home in ruins.

PROBATE COURT WANTS \$1,000.

The probate court today filed its annual requisition, asking an appropriation of \$1,000 for the conduct of that office. The board of selectmen ask \$170, including \$25 "for meals."

EASTON ESTATE \$324.

Inventory filed today in the probate court shows the estate of the late Martha J. Sturges, of Easton, to be valued at \$324.71.

Col. Henry S. T. Harris, chief surgeon of the Western division of the United States army, is dead.

SECURITIES FOR MILLION WORTH \$1, HE DECLARES

Former Head of New Haven Road Testifies in B. & M. Action.

NO EXPERT, ONLY FARMER, HE AVERS

"I'd Take a Dollar for the Lot," He Says of Railway Notes.

Boston, Dec. 19.—Charles S. Mellen, former president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford, and Boston & Maine railroads, appeared today as a witness in the federal court hearing on the question of making permanent the present temporary receivership of the latter property. Introduced by counsel for the minority interests which are opposing receivership, as "probably the greatest living railroad man in this country," Mr. Mellen modestly protested that he was not an expert on railroad matters but was only a farmer.

Mr. Mellen displayed a keen grasp of Boston & Maine affairs. Asked by Conrad W. Crocker, minority counsel, regarding a list of securities owned by the road to determine any difficulties between their book value and the witness' opinion of their real value, he made summary answers.

"I'd take a dollar for the whole bunch," he said, referring to \$40,420 of notes of the St. Johnsbury and Lake Champlain Railroad company, \$16,154 of notes of the Conway Electric Street Railway company, both listed as payable on demand.

The Pittsburgh railroad, one of the principal subsidiaries of the Boston & Maine, which owns 55,514 shares of its common stock, "was not an asset available for any special purposes," when the Boston & Maine assented to curties of the St. Johnsbury and Lake Champlain Railroad company, quoted at \$4,517 in the last annual report, he appraised at "minus one dollar a share" and "absolutely negligible."

In the case of 117 shares of Concord and Claremont railroad, however, he stated that "if I owned the Boston & Maine I would not sell that stock at \$1,000 a share," explaining that it had "a nuisance value."

The stock appears on the record at \$4,890. An effort by minority counsel to obtain from Mr. Mellen his opinion of the fairness of rental charges paid by the Boston & Maine to certain leased lines, was ruled out by the court as irrelevant to the question of receivership.

"I don't wish to have it assumed that am here to say these leases are valuable to the Boston & Maine," the witness interjected. The book statement of the cost of the Boston & Maine's construction was "far less than the actual cost," he stated, adding that the figures should be at least 50 per cent. greater. He held similarly the \$30,108,520 did not represent fully the road's investment in equipment.

Regarding the road's total operating revenue of \$52,075,427 during the last fiscal year, the witness agreed with counsel that it was abnormal.

"It is absolutely due to the abnormal circumstances of the great hurrah in Europe," Mr. Mellen said. The great boom in business in this country, in his opinion, is not permanent.

FRESH AIR FARM HOUSES ARE NOT SAFE TO LIVE IN

Officials Testify That Need of Fireproof Buildings Is Great.

That the buildings on Life's Fresh Air farm in Branchville are firetraps and extremely dangerous as a home for 200 children was the testimony of Supt. Silas Moore of the farm in the superior court this afternoon when he testified in the suit brought by Attorney General George E. Hinman on behalf of Life's Fresh Air Fund, against the Branchville Fresh Air Fund.

Says England Must Know Whether Germany is Prepared to Discuss Peace on Terms That Will Insure Lasting Tranquility in Europe—Allies to Act in Concert in Formulating Reply to Berlin's Overtures for Peace Discussion—Answer Will Be Made as Soon as Possible—Italy Awaits Terms.

GERMAN AMBASSADOR IS HOPEFUL

Washington, Dec. 19.—Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, said after hearing the first portions of Lloyd George's speech: "That sounds as if they would not refuse to talk about peace anyway."

London, Dec. 19.—Premier Lloyd George said in the House of Commons today that it was felt that they should know before entering on negotiations that Germany was prepared to accede to the only terms upon which it was possible for peace to be obtained and maintained in Europe.

The Premier said that without reparation peace would be impossible.

Mr. Lloyd George said there were no proposals for peace. To enter into proposals of which they had no knowledge was to put their heads into a noose with the rope end in the hands of Germany.

Much as they longed for it, the Premier added, the central powers' note and the speech preceding it afforded small encouragement and hope for an honorable and lasting peace.

Mr. Lloyd George said: "Our answer will be given in full accord with our allies. Each of the allies has separately and independently arrived at the same conclusion. I am glad of the first answer given by France and Russia."

Mr. Lloyd George said the allies would insist that the only end of the war must be a complete guarantee against Prussian militarism disturbing the peace of Europe.

The formal reply of the allies, the Premier announced, will be given in the course of a few days. He said:

"We will await until we hear what terms and guarantees there are surer than those which Germany broke. Meanwhile we put our trust in our unbroken army."

After declaring that peace without reparation was impossible, the premier asked whether "all the outrages on land and sea" had been liquidated by "a few pious phrases about humanity."

During the war, the premier said, shipping would be nationalized in a true sense.

Premier Lloyd George announced it had been decided to give recognition to the agents of Former Premier Venizelos, of Greece.

Dealing with the war situation, the Premier said he had to paint a stern but not gloomy picture. The Rumanian blunder was an unfortunate one, but at the worst it only prolonged the war and could not affect it.

It might have a salutary effect, he continued, in calling the attention of the allies to previous defects of organization. To prevent the Rumanian situation from becoming worse they had taken strong action. In Greece they were taking no risks. They had decided to recognize the agents of Former Premier Venizelos.

Speaking of the western front, Mr. Lloyd George referred to the growth of the British armies there and continued:

"I am convinced ultimate victory is sure if the nation shows the same spirit of endurance and readiness to learn as the mud-stained armies at the front."

Turning to the more purely political of the domestic problems, before the new ministry, he said:

"We are anxious to avoid all controversial questions. The functions of the Premier and leader of the House have been separated because it was thought the double tasks were too much for one man. In war you want prompt decision, and the allies have suffered disaster after disaster from tardiness of decision."

The speech of Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg before the German Reichstag was characterized by Mr. Lloyd George as constituting in substance a denial of the only terms upon which peace was possible.

The Premier said the time had come when the dominions should be consulted more formally as to the war. An imperial conference would be summoned at an early date to discuss vital questions.

The first appearance of Mr. Lloyd George, before the House of Commons as Premier, today, was made in circumstances seldom if ever faced by a new holder of the office. Even if the peace proposals of the central powers had not intervened, his statement of the policy of his government, which was chosen in reply to public demand for more vigorous prosecution of the war, would have marked an important step in the world conflict.

The peace note, however, shifted the interest and every corner of the world awaited the announcement as to the British attitude toward the move of the central powers.

Italy Waiting For Definite Proposals as Basis For Peace

Rome, Dec. 19.—Foreign Minister Sonnino said in the chamber of deputies today that several resolutions which had been introduced in the chamber in regard to the peace pro-

posals of the central powers seemed to be based on the supposition that the government had or would have concrete and precise indications as to the basis on which negotiations would be opened.

"This supposition does not correspond with the facts," the foreign minister continued. "There is no sign of a basis for negotiations in the enemy note. Should preparations be made subsequently we should consider what to do but it would be neither practical nor to consider that question today."

"I cannot communicate to you anything whatever as to the substance of the answer we shall give to the note of the four enemy powers. The answer will be published as soon as it is drawn up."

"We all wish peace and lasting peace. But we consider a lasting peace to be a careful settlement whose duration depends not on the solidarity of the fetters with which one people is held subject to another but on an exact balance among the states, based on respect for the principal nationalities, rules laid down in the laws of nations and the conclusions of humanity."

"If we were in the presence of genuine proposals, with bases of a nature to satisfy the general postulates of civilization and justice which I have just mentioned, none would reject them abruptly."

Baron Sonnino reported to the deputies of all parties in the words of Premier Briand, of France, not to permit the press of the central powers "to poison the mind of the people" and urged them not to "play the enemy's game" by giving way to rash or untimely manifestations which might implant the germs of dissention and discouragement.

FULMINATE HOUSE WRECKED; NONE IS HURT AT U. M. C.

A quantity of fulminate exploded in one of the mixing houses of the Union Metallic Cartridge Co. at Seaview avenue and Grant street, this morning. The flimsy structure was shattered and residents nearby were badly scared by the concussion. No one was hurt.

The loading houses are segregated from the main plant and are of flimsy construction. The mixing of fulminate is done by machinery, so that no human lives are jeopardized by the highly dangerous process.

SALOONKEEPER FINED

Joseph Charnowski, who conducts a saloon, in which is stationed two pool tables, at 426 Main street, was fined \$25 for allowing gambling on his premises and nine frequenters sentenced to pay fines of \$5. All were arrested last night.